U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/896,774   IBM Docket No. BOC9-2000-0062
Amendment Dated Jan. 07, 2005
Reply to Office Communication of Dec. 10, 2004
Docket No. 6169-198

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Original)   A method for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems, comprising:

receiving an order from a first trading partner system, said order initiating a transaction;

linking a status reported by a second trading partner system corresponding to said

transaction, wherein said first trading partner system and said second trading partner systems are disparate systems; and

reporting said linked status corresponding to said transaction, said status formatted for a particular channel.

2.   (Original)   The method according to claim 1, wherein said linking step comprises:

receiving an identifier for said status reported by said second trading partner, said identifier corresponding to said transaction; and

linking said received identifier to an assigned unique identifier corresponding to said transaction.

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3.   (Original)   The method according to claim 1, wherein said reporting step is responsive to a query received from an access platform, said access platform accessible by customers and said trading partners.

4.   (Original)   A method for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems, comprising:

receiving at a central exchange, an initial order for a transaction from one of a plurality of trading partners having disparate systems, said central exchange assigning a unique identifier for said initial order to said transaction;

linking an identifier identifying an activity status from said trading partners for said transaction to said unique identifier; and

responsive to a request for information, providing said requested information to a requester based on said linked identifier and said unique identifier, said requested information formatted for a selected channel.

5.   (Withdrawn)   A system for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems, comprising:

a trading partner exchange (TPE) communicatively interfaced to a plurality of trading partners, said TPE identifying an initial transaction and linking corresponding trading partner transaction status information with said initial transaction;

an access platform communicatively interfaced with said TPE, said access platform formatting said transaction status information according to a selected channel format; and

an access interface communicatively linked to said TPE, said access interface facilitating communication with said access platform.

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6.   (Withdrawn)   A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving an order from a first trading partner system, said order initiating a transaction;

linking a status reported by a second trading partner system corresponding to said transaction, wherein said first trading partner system and said second trading partner systems are disparate systems; and

reporting said linked status corresponding to said transaction, said status formatted for a particular channel.

7.   (Withdrawn)   The machine readable storage of claim 6, wherein said linking step comprises:

receiving an identifier for said status reported by said second trading partner, said identifier corresponding to said transaction; and

linking said received identifier to an assigned unique identifier corresponding to said transaction.

8.   (Withdrawn)   The machine readable storage according to claim 6, wherein said reporting step is responsive to a query received from an access platform, said access platform accessible by customers and said trading partners.

9.   (Withdrawn)   A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving at a central exchange, an initial order for a transaction from one of a plurality of trading partners having disparate systems, said central exchange

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assigning a unique identifier for said initial order to said transaction, said receiving

step for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems;

linking an identifier identifying an activity status from said trading partners

for said transaction to said unique identifier; and

responsive to a request for information, providing said requested information

to a requester based on said linked identifier and said unique identifier, said

requested information formatted for a selected channel.

10.   (New)   The method of claim 1, wherein said first trading partner

system and said second trading partner system are independently developed systems

having different architectures.

11.   (New)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

performing the receiving, linking, and reporting steps within a trading

partner exchange remotely located from the first trading partner system and the

second trading partner system.

12.   (New)   The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

the trading partner exchange assigning a unique transaction identifier to

the transaction; and

utilizing the unique transaction identifier to interface the trading

partner exchange with the first trading partner system and to interface the trading

partner exchange with the second trading partner system for communications

associated with the transaction.

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13.   (New)   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of:

the trading partner exchange including a status record associated unique transaction identifier, said status record being used by the trading partner exchange to generate the reported linked status.

14.   (New)   The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

linking the first trading partner system to the unique transaction identifier using a trading partner order identifier associated with the first trading partner system; and

linking the second trading partner system to the unique transaction identifier using a trading partner order identifier associated with the second trading partner system.

15.   (New)   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of:

the trading partner exchange receiving an update from a third trading partner system, wherein the reported linked status reflects the update.

16.   (New)   The method of claim 11, wherein the first trading partner system accesses the trading partner exchange through an access channel and wherein the second trading partner system accesses the trading partner exchange through a different access channel.

17.   (New)   The method of claim 11, wherein the trading partner exchange includes an access interface, said method further comprising the step of:

a customer accessing the status of the order through the access interface.

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18.   (New)   The method of claim 17, wherein the access interface provides a plurality of access channels for communicating to the trading partner exchange.

19.   (New)   The method of claim 4, wherein said disparate systems are independently developed systems having different architectures.

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